

Patricia Piester

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January 21, 2002

Judge Kolar Kottely
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division
Attention: Renata Hesse
601 D Street, N.W., Suite 1200
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Judge Kottely,

The Federal government has been pursuing its case against Microsoft for 3 years and has spent \$30 million of the hard-earned taxpayer's dollars in an effort to protect the consumer against Microsoft's perceived unfair business practices. The result has been confusion and no clear answers.

The Court of Appeals effectively put an end to this case by throwing out a break-up plan instituted by a lower court. This move was clearly in the right direction. We should follow their lead by putting an end to this case. Nothing good will come from dragging it out any longer at an even greater cost to taxpayers and consumers.

Instead, we must see action now in order to spur the American economic recovery we need, especially for our ailing technology industry.

Please support the proposed settlement in this case.

Thank you for considering my opinion on this case.

Sincerely,



Patricia Piester